

What can C2C do for me?

I am a CPS worker.

C2C will be able to support the work of case managers in the field by providing access to volunteers and visit coaches to ensure regular parent/child contact occurs for children in the program. It can also assist you in overcoming barriers to getting appropriate services in place for children ages 0 to 3, especially after a court order has been given. C2C will work alongside CPS to assist parents in meeting their case plan goals, learning how to interact and build their child's healthy brain, and learning how to live clean and sober lives.

I am an attorney.

The C2C program will assist parents in getting the needed skills to successfully build relationships with their children while ensuring the child is safe, secure, and has permanency in a short period of time. It was designed to help Judges make better informed decisions about our most at-risk population of abused and neglected children ages 0 to 3. As an attorney, C2C is also working to improve the court processes and eliminate redundancies so that we can reach the needed outcomes that will benefit our next generation and community.

I am a parent.

C2C wants to partner with you to help you learn more about your child's unique brain development and how you can learn to respond to your child's needs to build a strong, secure bond with your child. It is important that you follow the guidelines given by the court and CPS. C2C will provide a "one stop shop" for you to have parent/child contact, psychotherapy, substance abuse treatment and Drug Court, and/or trauma therapy as needed.

I am a community member or provider.

C2C will help the community as a whole by supporting the successful development of our very young children when we have the highest chances of impact. It is a program dedicated to improving the lives of our community in order to support the healthy development of our children so they can become successful, healthy members of society.

About Us

Young children entering the child welfare system most often face two key risk factors: 1) prenatal exposure to alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs, and 2) early trauma due to abuse, neglect, and/or disruption from their biological family. *Cradle to Crayons* (C2C) recognizes that these insults can cause changes in the structure and functioning of the child's developing brain, placing the children at risk for long-term health, behavioral health, and developmental problems. The benefits of early intervention – provided as early as possible in the life of the child – are well proven. Less obvious, but still important, are the savings a system of care can yield in the reduced number of children who would otherwise require costly services from the county's schools, child welfare system, mental health system and other health and social services.

The mission of the Maricopa County Child Welfare Center is the removal of barriers for the purpose of integrated service delivery and expedited permanency for infants, young children and their families. This project directly addresses the co-occurrence of child maltreatment, substance abuse, domestic violence and parental mental illness and implementation of a comprehensive approach to enable courts to address the complex needs of abused and neglected infants and toddlers. These comprehensive services include: visit coaching, assessment and treatment of cognitive, emotional, neurological and developmental delays through child/parent psychotherapy, community coordination, trauma therapy for parents, and Dependency Treatment Court.



Cradle to Crayons

SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA IN MARICOPA COUNTY
Juvenile Court | Cradle to Crayons Child Welfare Center
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*Our mission is to achieve
integrated service delivery
and expedited permanency
for infants, toddlers, and
their families*

Cradle to Crayons



Superior Court of Arizona
in Maricopa County
Juvenile Court
Child Welfare Center

Goals

C2C was developed to reach specific outcomes and improve the quality of court services for 0 to 3 aged children in the system. The following are a list of specific goals that C2C hopes to accomplish. C2C is using support from local schools of higher education to gather data and measure the effectiveness of each of our programs.

C2C is striving to meet all of the following outcomes.

- Decrease the average days it takes to make the first finding of a dependency
- Decrease the average length of dependency court cases (initiation to closure)
- Increase the percentage of cases that result in permanency
- Ensure all children ages 0 to 3 in state custody receive a preventative health screening (EPSDT) in a timely manner
- Increase awareness in the child welfare community about the negative impact of neglect and abuse on the very young child
- Improve linkages between community services and providers to ensure all children in care age 0 to 3 have the services they need
- Increase successful parent/child reunification rates whenever possible

Our Programs

C2C is focusing specifically on the most vulnerable population of children in state care, those ages 0 to 3. Research has shown a strong correlation between permanency and a secure attachment to a child's successful development into productive adults. On the flip side, those children who remain in the system continue to be at higher risk of problems in later life, including increased rates of chronic illness, death, mental health issues, problems building relationships, etc. We have an obligation to these children to ensure we are doing all we can to support their development and reach permanency quickly and with the least amount of stress on the child. To reach our goals, we have created the following programs under the Cradle to Crayons umbrella.

Judicial Engagement

Specially trained judges will be assigned to C2C caseloads; these judges only will hear cases related to dependency issues, will provide expedited court oversight, and will serve in this capacity for longer terms.

C2C Community Coordinators

Community Coordinators will facilitate on-going communication among community stakeholders including the Court and public and private agencies that provide services and support to C2C families. Coordinators will advocate for C2C clients to receive timely, high-quality service delivery specific to the identified needs of the 0-3 child and family members. This will include identification and resolution of barriers to service provision, and reporting the results to the Court.

- Sharon Lombard, Community Coordinator Supervisor: lombards@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov

Visit Coaching

Supervised visit coaching focuses on the strengths of the family and the needs of the children who are most often in an out-of-home placement. Children are placed in foster care to protect them from maltreatment, but removal causes a range of feelings and behaviors that are difficult for parents in visits and for foster parents at home. Coached visit sessions improve the quality of the parent-child relationship, teach parents hands-on skills and increase the likelihood of successful reunification.

- Nicole Roskens, Clinical Director: roskensn@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov

Child/Parent Psychotherapy

Collaboration among universities and on-site clinical staff will occur to provide child/parent psychotherapy (CPP) and visiting coach services. Interns from local universities will provide services under the supervision of full-time licensed staff. An additional benefit of this collaboration will be to build system capacity of a new generation of professionals who will be trained to meet the needs of these special children.

- Nicole Roskens, Clinical Director: roskensn@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov

Dependency Treatment Court

The purpose of this C2C component is to intervene with substance abusing parents and/or guardians who are alleged to have abused and/or neglected their children and are involved with the court system as the result. Space will be allotted to the community substance abuse provider contracted with Child Protective Services to provide immediate intake services. In addition, some parents will participate in the Dependency Treatment Court program, whose goal is to increase reunification by supporting parents to live clean and sober lifestyles so they can successfully parent their children.

- Angela Tuzzolino, Dependency Treatment Court Supervisor: tuzzolinoa@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov

Trauma Therapy

The ability to address the issue of trauma is a key factor to sustaining recovery. Some participants in Dependency Treatment Court will be offered trauma therapy to assist them with symptom appraisal and management, the development of coping skills, preventive education concerning pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases and help in dealing with role loss and parenting issues.

- Nicole Roskens, Clinical Director/Therapist: roskensn@superiorcourt.maricopa.gov